IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-9 (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) An alignment system for an imaging device comprising:

an alignment device comprising:

a base, the base having an affixation device to mount on a patient surface;

an insertion guide, having an opening therein and an insertion axis through the opening;

an adjustable joint attached to a distal end of the insertion guide, and coupled to the base;

an MR compatible local adjustment device attached to the adjustable joint;

an actuator detachably coupled to the local adjustment device, wherein the actuator is spaced apart from the local adjustment device to enable location of the actuator outside an imaging region of the imaging device while the local adjustment device is within the imaging region of the imaging device;

a control module in remote communication with the actuator and in communication with the imaging device, the control module aligning the insertion axis with the target location.

11. (Previously Presented) The alignment system of claim 10, wherein the control module includes a microcomputer.

12. (Original) The alignment system of claim 10, wherein the imaging device includes a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) device.

13. (Original) The alignment system of claim 10, further including a first reference device coupled to the insertion guide, the first reference device being capable of locating the insertion axis in three dimensional space relative to a patient.

14. (Previously Presented) The alignment system of claim 13, further including a second reference device coupled to a patient reference frame, the second reference device being capable of locating the patient relative to the first reference device.

15. (Original) The alignment system of claim 13, wherein the first reference device includes a conducting coil capable of locating the insertion axis in three dimensional space relative to the patient.

16. (Original) The alignment system of claim 13, wherein the first reference device includes a number of LED devices capable of locating the insertion axis in three dimensional space relative to the patient.

17. (Original) The alignment system of claim 13, wherein the first reference device includes a number of infra red (IR) reflecting devices capable of locating the insertion axis in three dimensional space relative to the patient.

18. (Original) The alignment system of claim 13, wherein the first reference device includes a potentiometer capable of locating a primary medical device along the insertion axis.

19. (Original) The alignment system of claim 13, wherein the alignment system is a closed loop system.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of aligning a medical device comprising:

coupling a base directly to a patient surface;

attaching an insertion guide to the base using an adjustable joint, the insertion guide having an insertion axis, and the adjustable joint having a range of motion;

attaching a multi-axis local adjustment device to the adjustable joint;

coupling an actuator to the local adjustment device, wherein coupling the actuator to the local adjustment device includes remotely coupling the actuator to the local adjustment device;

remotely actuating the actuator to adjust alignment of the insertion axis within the range of motion; and

detaching the actuator from the local adjustment device upon completion of a procedure.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein coupling a base includes attaching a base directly to the skull of a patient.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein actuating the actuator includes engaging a rotary motor, the rotary motor being coupled to the local adjustment device by a rotating cable drive.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, further including coupling the actuator to a remote control module, the remote control module being capable of adjusting the insertion axis by remotely actuating the actuator.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, further including:
imaging a patient with a tissue imaging device;
inputting a target location to the control module; and
computing an adjustment with the control module and aligning the insertion axis with the target location through actuation of the actuator.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein computing an adjustment with the control module and aligning the insertion axis includes computing an adjustment with the control module and aligning the insertion axis using a closed loop system.

Claims 27-28 (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The alignment system of claim 10, wherein the adjustable joint includes a ball and socket joint.

30. (Previously Presented) The alignment system of claim 10, wherein the local adjustment device includes a linear slide coupled to the insertion guide.

31. (Previously Presented) The alignment system of claim 30, wherein the linear slide includes a threaded adjuster coupled to a collar, the collar being coupled to the insertion guide.

32. (Previously Presented) The alignment system of claim 31, wherein the collar includes a ball and socket joint coupled to the insertion guide.